

Quick

Vol. 3, No. 6

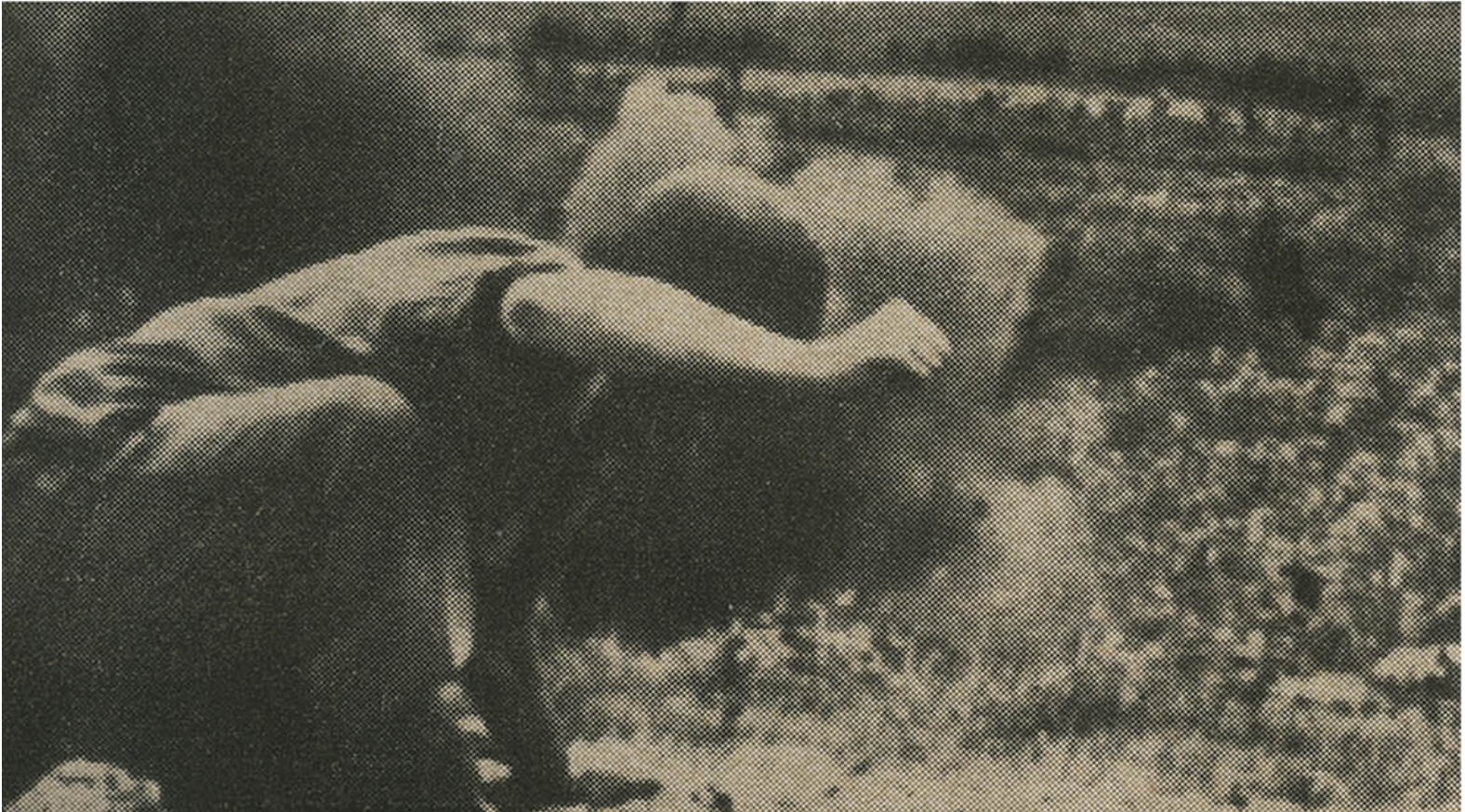
AUGUST 7, 1950

● THE WEEK'S BIGGEST NEWS World War?—The Risks in Russian Strategy

In Korea, outnumbered U. S. troops fought to hold a beachhead; at home, the U. S. defense effort snowballed. Looking beyond the Korea showdown, the U. S. had to plan against new Russian surprises. One aspect of such plans seemed certain: There would be no appeasement, even at the risk of World War III.

Inside Story (QUICK Washington report): "U. S. intelligence advices indicated a 10-year Russian military plan designed to bleed America white. The aim would be to keep the U. S. in a semi-mobilized, controlled state for years. Russia would provoke many incidents through its satellites, never commit Russian troops. The Soviets would hope for disturbances inside the U. S. as a result of a lowered standard of living through huge military spending. Defense officials wondered whether, if Americans became convinced this was Stalin's goal, demands would arise for the U. S. to open a 'preventive' war to wipe out the Russian threat."

Korea in two pictures: I—GI ducks Red mortar fire . . .



II—Wounded GI leaves the front on a hospital train.



Korea: —Three Against Ten

The U. S. took desperate measures to hold on in Korea. Troops from Pacific bases and fresh infantrymen arriving from the U. S. went into battle immediately to bolster the three U. S. divisions fighting against 10 Red divisions. In one of the few such orders in U. S. military history, GI's were told to hold the line or die.

Background: Where ordinarily a division is assigned only four to six miles of front, two U. S. divisions and parts of another had fought to hold a 200-mile perimeter. Commanding Gen. Walker had acknowledged that it all hinged on reinforcements. If more help came slowly, the U. S. force stood in danger of being whittled down to practically nothing.

THE WEEK'S BIGGEST NEWS

Korea: -The Red Air Enigma

Continued U. S. air strikes made the Red advance costly. Red planes stayed on the ground, but Gen. MacArthur's command was concerned over revival of a Red air assault.

Background: Intelligence services reported that Soviet officers had moved in to run North Korean airfields. The main worry was that the beachhead area would make a prime target.

The U. S. Argues Mobilization

A showdown on economic mobilization shaped up. Congressmen argued over: 1) whether a step-by-step defense effort would be enough; 2) a plea by Bernard Baruch for all-out price, wage, rent and rationing controls.



Bishop in St. Louis Post-Dispatch
"Forward, March!"

Background: The Administration's view was that a \$5 billion tax increase, allocation of materials to defense, and certain controls over credit and hoarding would meet first needs. Price controls and rationing might be used later. Critics of Baruch called him an "ex-adviser to ex-



Baruch to Congress: "This isn't a game of mumblety-peg."

Presidents." But his warning—"this isn't a game of mumblety-peg, when you lose you lose once and for all"—brought a quick response among Congressmen. They recalled that it was Baruch who spurred the U. S. to mobilization efforts that won two world wars.

U. N.: Russia Seeks a Whip Hand

Russia got into position to bother U. N. steps during the critical month of August. It broke its seven-month boycott of the Security Council, sent its delegate Jacob Malik back to take the chair when Russia's turn for Presidency of the Council came up.

Background: Russia's move brought its diplomacy, hamstrung since the U.N. walkout in January, into maneuverable shape. Malik could: 1) press a "peace" offensive; 2) screen new military adventures from U.N. action. Most worried nation: Iran. Iranians were so frightened of invasion that much capital fled the country to lodge in N. Y. and Paris banks.